

DISPENSING WITH CALENDAR  
WEDNESDAY BUSINESS ON  
WEDNESDAY NEXT

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the business in order under the Calendar Wednesday rule be dispensed with on Wednesday next.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO  
DISPENSE WITH SPECIAL OR-  
DERS ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY  
14, 1995

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday next the House dispense with special orders out of consideration for the loyal staff that all too often have stayed here all too late for Members to have special orders, so on Tuesday next I ask unanimous consent that we dispense with the special orders so they too can join with their loved ones for an evening celebration of Valentine's Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I would say to the majority leader, as one who for years and years has had very friendly discussions with the gentleman's side of the aisle on consideration for our staff in evenings, particularly as it relates to special orders, I want to say that I certainly will not object to that request, and I admire and congratulate the majority leader for making it.

Mr. ARMEY. I thank the gentleman.

Mr. HOYER. Further reserving the right to object, I apologize, my Majority Leader. I was being somewhat facetious, but I am told that we have a number of Members signed up. Can we maybe wait just a couple of minutes or till Monday and do it on Monday?

Mr. ARMEY. I would be happy to. I was being impulsive, and I thought maybe the staff would have an opportunity to make their dates.

But let us go ahead and check on Monday.

Mr. HOYER. Reclaiming my time, I want to assure the majority leader that I will be lobbying for the staff, but we will check with the Members who have special orders.

Mr. ARMEY. I suppose with the Members we will check on that, but there are at least two Members that will be fighting for the staff to have the night off early.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw the request.

□ 1530

MANDATED SENTENCING: LISTEN  
TO THE GOVERNORS

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately I did not have in my possession a letter which I now have from Governor Carnahan of Missouri and Governor Carson of Minnesota. It deals with H.R. 667, the Violent Criminal Incarceration Act of 1995.

We have just passed that act, and I voted for a couple of amendments that lost. But I would want the Members to have this brought to their attention.

Obviously a Democrat and a Republican Governor in speaking to it, they say, "This would make it difficult for many of our States to participate in the proposed requirements." What they were referring to were the sentencing requirements. The Governors go on to say, and I think this is important for us to note in consideration of the Federal mandate bill that we debated extensively, the governors say, "Federally mandated sentencing structure could disrupt the State efforts." The efforts to which they were referring was beefing up sentencing.

They conclude by saying, Mr. Speaker, "as Governors, we support maximum flexibility that recognizes the efforts currently in place or under way in many of our States. We urge you to strike the sentencing requirements in H.R. 667 and allow States to utilize Federal funds to establish truth-in-sentencing as it relates to the laws in our individual States."

Mr. Speaker, I believe as that legislation moves further through the process and comes back here, we ought to take into consideration the Governors' words.

#### LET FARMERS FARM

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleague from Indiana, Mr. HOSTETTLER, the American Farm Bureau, the American soybean Association, and the National Pork Producers Council, in supporting the Agricultural Lands Protection Act.

Mr. Speaker, the Second District of North Carolina is the second largest producer of tobacco in America. We also have hundreds of soybean, peanut, and livestock farms. Farmers are the backbone of my district. Unfortunately, Washington treats these hard-working Americans like criminals. Its agents invade their land. Federal bureaucrats tell them what they can and can't do on their own farms. Instead of spending their time in the fields and barns, our farmers are now spending their days filling our forms and applying for permits.

Mr. Speaker, the madness has to stop. The Agricultural Lands Protection Act is a first step in restoring some sanity to agricultural policy. It says that the Federal Government will no longer classify land historically used for farming and ranching as wetlands. No longer will farmers have to

bend to the whim of some hard core environmentalist at the Department of Agriculture or the Corps of Engineers. This bill restores fundamental property rights to the men and women who put food on our table. It's long past time that this House put the interests of the farmer above bureaucrats and academics, lets pass the Agricultural Lands Protection Act.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ZELIFF). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mrs. SEASTRAND] is recognized for 5 minutes.

[Mrs. SEASTRAND addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.]

#### A TRIBUTE TO ORNA SIEGEL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California [Mr. TUCKER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TUCKER. Mr. Speaker, in the past I have stood on the floor of this Chamber to pontificate on matters of local, State, and national importance. In the future, I will stand in this well and articulate the concerns of those in need of a voice to speak for them.

But today, Mr. Speaker, I rise for a different reason. I rise to pay tribute to a very special woman. A woman of substance, style, grace, and an inner beauty that would pale the brightest star. A committed leader in the struggle to enhance the pro-Israel cause; a heroine who speaks out while others remain silent; a wife to the man she calls her prince; a wonderful mother to her daughter Shana and her son Jonathan; a friend to those in need of friendship; she is my friend, the "red-hair," Orna Siegel.

Mr. Speaker, Orna Siegel was born Orna Tieb in Tunisia. She is the seventh of eight children that moved to a small town in Israel when she was four. At the age of 18 she served her country as a member of the Israeli Defense Forces as a sergeant in its' Air Force. She was educated at the Seminar Hakibutzim in Tel Aviv, Israel. There at the university she met her prince charming, American businessman, Saul Siegel. Cupid's arrow hit its' mark and Saul proposed to the lovely red head on the very day the couple met.

A true servant to her homeland, Orna founded the Summit Club, an Israeli-American leadership organization. She was the chairwoman of the annual fundraising gala dinner for the Friends